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Description of a new species of ALEYRODES.

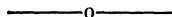
BY HENRY SHIMER, A. M., M. D.

ALEYRODES ASARUMIS, n. sp.

Whitish, farinose, downy, especially on the wings. Head, thorax and abdomen pale yellowish-white. Wings laid flat on the back in repose, short and broadly rounded at the apex; near the extremity, where the strong central vein branches, a dark macula in the form of an obtuse angle, opening posteriorly towards the apex of the wing. The posterior wing has a similar but fainter spot. Antennæ six-jointed, first thick, clavate. Eyes brown, two-parted. Tarsi long, exceeding two-thirds the tibiæ.

I find these insects during the entire summer, on the under side of *Asarum Canadense* (Wild Ginger) in September.* I have seen them very numerous in all stages, the larva and pupa presenting the usual scale-like form of this family; at this time the under side of the leaf, that has reared a good colony, is covered with a white downy secretion. The imago when slightly disturbed flies away, acting not much unlike small Tineina, hence it may often be found on trees, &c., but I have only observed the larva on the above-named plant, and believe it to be entirely confined to it.

MT. CARROLL, Ill., August 24, 1867.

**Description of a new species of CECIDOMYIA.**

BY HENRY SHIMER, A. M., M. D.

CECIDOMYIA ACERIS, n. sp.

Antennæ brown, ♀ fifteen-jointed, joints sessile, first campanulate, second globular, others ovoidal, subsessile, all verticillate hairy; ♂ fifteen-jointed, joints pedicelled, the pedicel being about equal to the joint, verticillate hairy, the hairs more numerous and much longer than in the female. Head and thorax black. Abdomen brown, darker in the male. Legs drab-grey, feet reddish-brown. Wings hairy, the hairs

* On the 1st of October, after the above was in type, while I was on a botanical excursion, I found a solitary specimen of *Actara alba*, Mich. (White Cohish) growing in the midst of a patch of Wild Ginger, with probably a hundred of the above-named insect, in various stages of development, on the under side of the leaves.

longest on the veins, appressed on the membranes. Length of body .03—.05 inch. Alar expanse .08—.10 inch.

Larva on the surface of the leaves of *Acer dasycarpum*, Ehrhart, (White or Silver Maple), pale or whitish, the alimentary canal appears through the translucent integument as a greenish stripe; often single specimens on the leaf, more frequently in scattering groups of three to a dozen on the same leaf; the leaves become curled and irregularly contorted, but there are no galls; at length, after the maturity of the insect, the leaves become dry and black.

I have seen this insect in former years, but did not then study its natural history. This year I first observed it on the Maple leaves, about the 7th of July; they may still be found, and have produced at least three generations during this time; from the 20th to 30th of July I observed them most numerous, in all stages; the cocoons are whitish and are formed on the surface of the leaf, where the larva lived in some angle of the contortions. The pupa seen through the cocoon is pale yellowish, but the empty cocoon is quite white.

That these pupa tenements are real spun cocoons, there no longer remains a doubt, notwithstanding the opposite opinion of Entomologists who jump to conclusions without observations, wishing to be considered masters of their business, and wise to perfection in Entomology.*

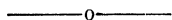
I observed these cocoons in various stages of their construction; some just commencing, had thrown out stays in some angle of the crooked leaf, precisely in the same manner as do the lepidopterous larvæ; others partially completed, still showed the strands of silk; when entirely complete they appear much like fine tissue paper. Is it not probable that the whole web is cemented together with a gummy fluid after being constructed, for the purpose of excluding water, and preventing evaporation during dry weather, more especially the latter? On the leaf of the tree, in midsummer, the insect is not so likely to be damaged by excessive moisture as by excessive evaporation during the period of its transformation. The silken threads of these cocoons are very fine, but can be plainly seen with a good eye-glass of high power; the thread was plainly seen also, by other eyes besides my own. With a microscope the threads of the cocoon can be seen at the torn edges, as

* Mr. Walsh's views on this matter are wild as well as amusing, and entirely profitless; wherein he maintains (Proc. Ent. Soc. Vol. iii, No. 3,) that the cocoon is extruded from the body of the larva, and afterwards inflated with gas like a bubble. He has been properly reviewed by Dr. Packard, (Proc. Ent. Soc. Vol. vi, No. 2).

well as in the outer stays. The outer stay threads are positively demonstrative of the structure of the cocoon, even when not seen until after completion.

Among these Cecidomyian larvæ I observed the larvæ of two species of Chalcididæ (probably undescribed); subsequently I found the pupæ attached by their abdominal extremity to the leaf; they are of a pale yellow color; the imago develops a week or two after the *Cecidomyia*.

Mt. CARROLL, Ill., August 24, 1867.



On a new Genus of APHIDÆ.

BY HENRY SHIMER, A. M., M. D.

HAMAMELISTES, nov. gen.

Anterior wing with two discoidal veins, the first one branched, the second simple. Posterior wing with one simple discoidal vein. Wings laid flat on the back in repose, extending much beyond the body. Body short. Honey-tubes small or obsolete. Antennæ short, three to five-jointed.



HAMAMELISTES CORNU, n. sp.*

Imago. Usually entirely black, abdomen sometimes brownish, especially beneath. Honey-tubes obsolete or not visible. Wings hyaline. Anterior wing rounded at the apex, first vein forked near the middle, bearing a long branch about parallel with the second vein; second vein aborted at its origin; stigma not very conspicuous, being a faint shade darker than the pale dusky intercostal space; costal vein heavy until

* Since the description of this species was in type, I observe, from the *Proceedings of the Entomological Society*, Vol. I, p. 305, that in the *N. Y. Cat. Homop.* Dr. Fitch has an *Aphis*, found in conical follicles on the upper surface of the Witch-hazel leaves, which he names *Byrsocrypta hamamelidis*. I have not been able to see a description of his insect, and it is not impossible that my *cornu* may be synonymous with his *hamamelidis*; but it appears improbable, as his species is placed under *Byrsocrypta*—a genus in which the front wing has three simple discoidals and the hind wing two discoidals, and the antennæ six-jointed, all of which characters do not accord with my insect. It appears to me that his insect, if it has a distinct existence, must accord with the characters he thus gives it, and the bare fact that it, like mine, inhabits a conical follicle on the upper side of the Witch-hazel leaf, is not, if I understand the rules of science, sufficient to induce me to withhold my description until perchance I might see his.